

What is claim is:

1. An image reading device for reading an optical image of an object using a camera having pixels arrayed in a line, comprising:

5 (a) a pixel-selecting section for accessing the pixels individually and outputting an image signal;

(b) pixel-selecting-information-providing means for providing pixel-selecting information including necessary information to specify a pixel which outputs the image signal;

10 (c) a relative-moving mechanism for moving the object relative to the camera;

(d) a relative-movement detector for detecting the object moving a given distance in one direction relative to the camera; and

15 (e) a controller for controlling said pixel-selecting section based on the pixel-selecting information and outputting a pixel signal supplied from a desirable pixel when said relative-movement detector detects a relative movement for the given distance.

-- 2. An image reading device comprising:

(a) a camera having pixels arrayed in a line in a first direction;

20 (b) a moving mechanism for moving an object in a second direction crossing the first direction relative to said camera;

(c) a detector for detecting the object moving a given distance in the second direction relative to said camera;

25 (d) a pixel selector for accessing the pixels individually and outputting an image signal;

(e) an information-providing section for providing necessary information to specify a pixel which outputs the image signal; and

(f) a controller for controlling said pixel selector based on the information and outputting a pixel signal supplied from a desirable pixel when said detector detects a relative movement for the given distance.

5        3. The image reading device of claim 2, wherein the pixels form a line sensor having a photoelectric transfer element.

10      4. An image reading method for reading an optical image of an object using a camera with pixels arrayed in a line, said method comprising the steps of:

15      (a) moving the object by a relative-moving device in one direction relative to a camera; and

      (b) outputting an image signal from a specific pixel repeatedly based on pixel-selecting information every time the object moves a given distance.